THE FLORIDA STAR

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Appomattox Forty Years After. as a war event having a peculiar distinction. The verdict of April 9, 1895, has proved a final one. At the end of forty years its portent as a factor in human destiny stands out no less boldly than that of Yorktown, which is nearly a century and a quarter behind

The judgment of history upon Jecisive battles must often be ambiguous and inconclusive. Waterloo crushed Napoleon L. but that for which the mighty Corsican stood-Napoleonismerected its front again and had to be once more dethroned at Sedan, fiftyfive years after Waterloo. Even yet the Bonaparte specter hovers over republican France.

It is difficult, too, to determine the precise period in the development of Greece when a second Marathon was seen to be impossible and the decisive character of the marvelous victory won by Miltiades became manifest. And Yorktown may have to be fought over before the fate of North America is decided. But the cause that went down at Appoinattox was lost forever. Sons of Yankees and sons of Johnnies may one day come to blows, but not over the apple of 1861. They may shake hands across some new bloody chasm. but the chasm bridged by Grant and Lee is filled into the level with ada-

Appomattox was not a sudden crushing of the defeated which forced the reluctant cry. "Enough!" It was a sequel to fighting, not itself a fight, a climax foreseen for months and for which both leaders and both armies had rehearsed their respective parts. After Gettysburg the south knew that its cause was hopeless, and after Gettysburg the north knew that one day it would dictate terms to vanquished brethren.

So Appomattox, when it came, partook of the nature of a national love feast. There was no wild triumphing. for long delayed and dearly bought victory had discounted joy. There was no mourning, for a lingering death had dulled the pangs of sorrow. Lee's white flag was a truce with pain. It covered the victor as well as the vanquished.

The true meaning of Appomattox grows clearer as the nation waxes in consequence. But for Appointatox there would be no great American power today. The twentieth century Lees and Grants, Gordons and Shermans, Sheridans and Stuarts, have a common passion as well as a common flag. The burden of their mingled shouts is "Union!" "Sail on, sail on, oh, ship of state," is the song of every people, but "Sail on, oh, Union, strong and great," applies to but one people under the sun.

Men may change flags, but human passion is ineradicable. Federation of separable states went down in a consuming fire. The indissoluble Union of separate states arose from the ashes. Before the world we date from Yorktown; between ourselves, from Appo-

Russia's Popular Assembly.

If the zemsky sobor works out political reform in Russia it must get to work with more energy and have wider scope than the assemblies of the past. Ivan the Terrible called the national representatives together in the sixteenth century. During the next hundred years the assembly met several times, but its chief claim to historic importance lies in the fact that it founded the Romanoff dynasty.

In the seventeenth century Catherine II. summoned a commission made up of all classes in the empire, including soldiers, militiamen, peasants and representatives of the tribes not included in the general society of the land. This assembly numbered 652 delegates and spent two years in deliberations, which produced little result beyond the explosion of much fine sentiment inspired by the empress, who was a pupil of Voltaire.

A cabinet minister is now at the head of the British board of agriculture, and since its reorganization in 1903 the board is stirring up things. ing and sheep raising in the future.

The root idea of the Consumers' league is not the protection of consumers, but the regulation of conditions under which production and distribution are carried on. By educating and directing public opinion the league hopes to effect co-operation and make the burdens of workers easier. One of the evils aimed at is late hours of shopping, which entail long hours upon the employees of retail establishments. Carelessness in giving addresses where goods are to be delivered, thus causing needless and vexatious work for the employees, is another matter which the Appomattor may be reviewed today league will impress upon its members. The national league includes fiftyeight organizations, located in twentyone states. .

> In commenting upon the literary triumphs of Lew Wallace the Atlanta Constitution says:

The motive for the great semireligious story of "Ben-Hur" came to the author after a straightforward talk with Ingersoll on the subject of religion and the existence of a God, and it was to refute his doctrine and show the purely human prob ability of a God man that the great novelist undertook the preparation of the work that has been translated into almost every known language.

The sale of the book is said to be as great as ever, twenty-five years after its appearance. Its success was phenomenal in every way, the aggregate sales reaching 1,000,000 copies.

The manuscript readers in the latest prize story contest cast aside ninety-five stories out of every hundred after five minutes' reading. In explanation one of the readers said, "If a writer has anything to say he will begin to say it in the first thousand words that he writes." Some literary critics go further than that and insist that the first paragraph should contain the gist of never seem at home in them. the story. The first paragraph might be misleading, but if a writer holds out well for 1,000 words the chances are that the story has merit.

A "Star of Empire" light should be the next thing in order to balance the Liberty light on the Atlantic coast. Of course the Pacific coast is the place for it, and the Lewis and Clark exposition managers have perhaps unwittingly located the site. They will set up on Mount Hood, forty miles from the exposition grounds, a searchlight visible 200 miles away. Mount Hood is over 11,000 feet above the level of the sea, and mariners will be able to see the light when 128 miles off the coast.

postmaster, who incidentally wins big lake no other kind. literary prizes and rakes in publishers checks, comes to the fore with a project for internal development. He would have the government construct a chain of inland waterways by means of new canals and existing rivers and lakes. Since everybody cannot locate along natural water courses, it seems not only fair, but a stroke of business policy, to take the water to the inland settlements.

A newspaper controversy has brought out the fact that housekeeping econo HOW TO BUILD A SKIPLICK my is made difficult by the tricks and greed of fancy packers. "Fancy" eggs, "fancy" bacon, "fancy" butter are held at prices out of sight, and the plain articles are of the procest quali- HOW TO BUILD A MOTOR LAUNCH ty. Not alone in houses, in clothes and in diversions, but also in food, the HOW TO BUILD A KNOCKABOUT great cities are becoming more and more exclusively for the very rich or the very poor. The middling class is not catered to.

Lyman Abbott's apology for overturn How to Build a Model Yacht ing the fabric of established Chris (and we have a tianity was needless, says the Chicago Tribune. The efitor disclaims any interest in the controversy aside from a historical one and suggests that Dr. Abbott's idea of God as an indwelling principle is as old as Christian theology. Gregory the Great of the sixth century and Thomas Aquinas of the thirteenth century are quoted as having affirmed the immanence of God in the

Wireless telegrams from Great Britsin to vessels at sea cost 13 cents a word, the minimum being \$1.00 approximate for each message. The rate for ten words and upward is less than

If congress thinks that a half a mil-Hote or so is too big a price to pay for redeeming the dirty and insanitary paper money in circulation it might compromise on a scheme to fundgate and freshen up the disreputable look-

Correspondents from the east are still pounding poor Stoessel. Had he succeeded the faults now charged Special attention will be given to dairy against him would be galvanised into

Three years ago anarchists and the assassination of rulers were the most abominable things that could curse a nation in the eyes of the people of this country. They hadn't a defender. Because it is some other body's ox that is gored in 1905 there is a condoning of anarchists and their deeds and a smirking approval of the meens employed by anarchists to punish hated rulers and governments. If the spirit is kept alive in the world it will strike this country as often as any other. The better the government the more the anarchists hate it.

The Russian cruiser Lena incident is not yet closed. Three officers of the vessel who broke the parole to the United States and are now in Russia will, of course, be returned to nominal captivity in this country, and their government may be called upon to make reparation for this breach of

The west having some young men to spare, at least some who think they can be spared, Horace Greeley's injunction has been changed to "Go south, young man, go south," the south being Cuba. A visitor who has just returned from the island says, "To a young man who is willing to work no place offers better opportunities."

The president of a famous old college solicits gifts of secondhand dress suits to the boys at his institution. Of course the clothes will be forthcoming. so all there is to do about it is to voice congratulations on the chance to learn how to be graceful in swallowtails and not act like some folks, who affect them for all sorts of occasions and

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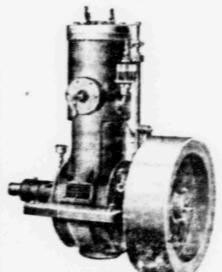
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